

# BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE AUTHORITY

## MINUTES POLICE AUTHORITY 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2007, 9.30AM

at  
THE HILTON HOTEL, CARDIFF

**Present:** Sir Alistair Graham (Chair)  
Sir David O'Dowd  
Mr L Adams  
Mr M Brown  
Mr C Foxall  
Mr R Gisby  
Mr M Holden  
Mr J King  
Ms C Knights  
Suzanne May  
Mrs W Towers  
Mr J Weimar

**Apologies:** Mr R O'Toole

**In attendance:** Mr I Johnston, Chief Constable  
Mr P Crowther, Assistant Chief Constable  
Mr S Thomas, Assistant Chief Constable  
Ms L Scott, HR Director  
Mr P Zieminski, Chief Superintendent  
Ms J Lincoln, T/Director of Finance and Corporate Services  
  
Mr R Hemmings, Chief Executive & Clerk  
Ms D McGovern, Deputy Clerk  
Mrs S Elvy, Research and Policy Officer  
Miss L Barrick, Business Support Manager & Minutes

**Public:** Mr G Morgan, Arriva Trains Wales

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## PART I – ITEMS TAKEN IN PUBLIC

### 35/2007 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Non- Agenda

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. He started by giving apologies from Mr O'Toole.

The Chair welcomed Assistant Chief Constable Crowther to his first meeting as an Assistant Chief Constable following his success at interview.

### 36/2007 MINUTES OF MEETING 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2007

Agenda Item 1

These were approved as an accurate record following two minor amendments.

### 37/2007 MATTERS ARISING

Agenda Item 2

All matters had been discharged.

### 38/2007 COMMITTEE ISSUES

Agenda Item 3

#### ***Olympic Steering Group 15.05.07***

Suzanne May updated that the Group had requested clarification on what the funding requested consisted of and what it was intended to be spent on. HMIC were also going through the figures; this was welcomed by the Force and Authority.

The Chief Constable said it had been agreed that the request for funding would go to Home Office and they would pursue it to Treasury with DfT as the sponsors. The route of application for funding was through the Home Office and the DfT were sighted on this. The Chief Constable said that as yet he did not have the DfT's agreement to the figures in writing, but he would request this. Suzanne May said that if the bid was put in to the Home Office there was still no guarantee that the funding would be received.

The Chair said the two points that needed to be concentrated on were the political statement of policy, and what the technical approach to getting funding is. He said that he would write formally to the new Secretary of State detailing the position BTP was in relating to funding, and the Authority's concern that this be resolved as soon as possible.

Mr Foxall asked if any money had been received directly from the Home Office previously. The Chief Constable said the Force had received direct funding from the Home Office in the past for other Government initiatives, so there were precedents.

#### **Agreed:**

- **The Chair to write to the new Secretary of State detailing the position BTP is in around Olympic funding.**
- **Members to be sighted on any future correspondence on Olympic funding.**

- **The Chief Constable to clarify with DfT that they supported the BTP bid.**

***Human Resources and Remuneration Committee 17.05.07***

Ms Knights said the HR department had been the subject of an HMIC visit, COG visit and PwC audit in the last year. The recommendations from these had been collated to create the department's business improvement plan. This would be monitored by the Committee which was addressing areas individually.

The main focus of the meeting had been around pensions and safeguarded travel, which were two of the big issues currently facing the Force.

Mr Hemmings explained that the resolution of the pensions situation for the Police Service Northern Ireland (PSNI), had been helpful to BTP, in that Northern Ireland officers were now able to transfer in the way BTP wanted to. However, the Government was trying to distinguish between BTP and PSNI, saying PSNI were part of the Home Office scheme so it was easier to remedy their situation. Mr Hemmings said he would continue to update the Authority as more information was received. Representations were continuing with the Government Departments.

There had not been any figures received yet with regard to the actuarial valuation of the police officer fund, which had taken place in December; they were expected shortly. However, the early indication from the actuary was that there would be a surplus. The valuation of the staff scheme was due to take place in December 2007 and the results for this would be expected around July 2008. There was also now a statutory duty for the actuary to speak with the employer.

With regard to safeguarded travel, Ms Knights said further counsel's opinion was being sought and the Force had been asked to provide a paper giving clarity on all existing arrangements.

***Strategy, Budget and Performance Monitoring 05.06.07***

The Chair said the consultation papers for the Strategic Plan had gone out and the consultation had taken place. This had been discussed on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and would be dealt with later on the agenda.

***Working Together Group 13.06.07***

This would be covered in item 7.

***Audit and Corporate Governance Committee 26.06.07***

Sir David said the annual risk report would be presented to the Authority meeting in October to fit in with the reporting cycle at the request of the Force.

A review of the HR department from PwC had been presented to the meeting which had outlined concerns around the strategic planning within the department. Sir David said an annual plan to underpin the department's strategic plan had now been developed and he had referred this review to the HR&R Committee for monitoring.

**39/2007 CHIEF CONSTABLE'S REPORT**

Agenda Item 4

The Chief Constable spoke to his report:

- Chief Superintendent Flood would be replacing Chief Superintendent Crowther as Area Commander for London Underground, following Chief Superintendent Crowther's appointment to the post of Assistant Chief Constable Crime.
- Assistant Chief Constable Steve Thomas had joined the Force from Greater Manchester Police, as Assistant Chief Constable London and Olympics.
- The post of Area Commander for Wales and Western Area had been advertised and interviews would be taking place shortly.
- The Deputy Chief Constable had been appointed Chair of the ACPO Media Advisory Group. The Authority congratulated him on this appointment.
- The Olympics funding was still a key issue for Force finances.
- The Chief Constable had been in discussion with the Metropolitan Commissioner to discuss relationships between the MPS and BTP.
- Four PCSO seminars had been held which had been successful. There was a lot of ambition to improve this function and a lot of work to pick up following the seminars.
- BTP hosted a two day RAILPOL conference in May, which had been attended by a number of transport police officers from various European Union States. A number of railway policing related topics had been discussed, including cable theft and graffiti.
- The third staff survey had been launched in June. The end date would be flexible to ensure to ensure maximum responses were received. The results of this would be reported to the Authority as soon as they were available.
- The Chief Constable and Ms Scott had attended the ACPO conference in June. The Chief Constable said it would be useful to have Authority representatives attending the ACPO conferences. He requested that the dates of conferences were published to Members well in advance and Authority and Committee meetings were kept clear of these dates as far as reasonably possible. The next conference was taking place on 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> October in Northamptonshire. However the annual summer conference was the important event for members.

**Agreed:**

- **The Chief Constable to give an update on CCTV at the next meeting.**
- **A meeting to be set up between Mr Brown and Assistant Chief Constable Crowther.**
- **Mr Gisby to look into the actions being taken by the DfT around CCTV specifications and retention.**

**40/2007 POLICING PRESENTATION – NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING**

Agenda Item 5

A joint presentation was given from Chief Superintendent McHugh, Acting Area Commander Wales and Western, and Mr Morgan of Arriva Trains Wales (ATW) on neighbourhood policing. This presentation outlined the current issues being faced in Wales and demonstrated the success of the neighbourhood policing style in overcoming these.

The Authority thanked Chief Superintendent McHugh and Mr Morgan for an excellent presentation.

**41/2007 STRATEGIC PLAN 2008-11**

Agenda Item 6

The Chief Constable circulated a note which outlined what he had taken from the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> July (copy in the minute book). A letter from South West Trains, detailing their feedback on the consultation documents, was also circulated (copy in the minute book). It was noted that the following points had been agreed on 3<sup>rd</sup> July:

**Agreed:**

- **The Force would submit a further draft plan to the SB&PM Committee at their next meeting which was scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> October incorporating all the consultation feedback and the discussions from 3<sup>rd</sup> July.**
- **The Chair to contact the holding groups that had not responded to the letter regarding consultation.**
- **Subject to approval at the SB&PM Committee the redrafted plan to be distributed for wider consultation.**
- **The Plan should be absolutely clear about its objectives.**

**42/2007 WORKING TOGETHER GROUP (WTG) REPORT**

Agenda Item 7

Mr Hemmings said the WTG had considered existing examples of good practice of the industry and BTP working together. The result of this had been the suggestion for a Problem and Resourcing Profile (PARP) for each TOC in its BTP Area. Mr Hemmings said he hoped that Members would endorse the joint report that was presented from BTPA and ATOC as a way forward. If sign up was achieved Mr Hemmings said he hoped that ATOC would encourage TOCs to work within the framework.

The Chair said if the framework was endorsed the Authority should write to the DfT to say that it had met its commitments from the review. However, the review of the PSA was still required.

Mr Weimar the WTG had dealt with the lack of transparency and engagement between BTP and the industry to increase shared understanding. There was still work to do but lots of positive comments had been received around joint tasking, and the proposed framework would improve relations and communication further. The funding and PSA issues were for the Authority.

Mr Hemmings said work on the revised PSA was underway and some of the revised framework could be built into this. A draft of the proposed PSA would be brought to the Authority and it would then be for the Secretary of State to approve it.

Mr Gisby felt the WTG had produced a good piece of work and had improved relationships already. However, he felt there was the chance that the suggested framework could create a lot of bottom up pressure on Area Commanders, or alternatively could result in TOCs wanting to pick and choose which offences were dealt with on their services, which was not what the framework was about.

Mr Adams stressed that the Chief Constable's authority to deploy the Force as he sees fit should be maintained. He added that the autonomy of the Authority must not be lost.

Mr Weimar said it had to be recognised that one model would not fit all and it would have to be adapted for the different companies. He added that this framework had to be focussed within the BTP Area structure

Mr Adams noted that there was not a BTPA representative listed to attend Area joint tasking groups. The Chair said the Authority was non-executive but from time to time it may be appropriate as part of the monitoring process for a Member to attend and observe.

The Chair said there was a genuine desire for partnership working and he felt the framework suggested was the best way forward for getting joint contribution as it would lead to a closer understanding of BTP work at TOC level.

Mr King asked what the timescales for the new framework and PSA were. Mr Hemmings answered that as the ATOC Board would be meeting in August and there would be new franchises starting in November he hoped that PSA would be agreed before November. However, the current disputes may affect its introduction. The Chair requested that an update paper be presented to the next meeting on this matter.

The Chief Constable welcomed the cautionary comments, but said he knew this way of working would be a challenge, but it was one he was happy to face.

The framework and protocols were **endorsed**.

The report was **noted**.

**Agreed:**

- **The BTPA and BTP formally adopted the Framework for Partnership Working and the protocol as set out in Annex A to this Appendix 4 as the basis for future partnership working.**
- **The PARPs by Southeastern Trains and Northern Rail were commended as examples of good practice.**

- All PARPs be presented to the BTPA and the ATOC Board. The Board be asked to agree the process, so that the TOC community can be made aware of PARPs, recognising that creating them will be for local agreement.
- The PARPs will provide evidence upon which local Area Policing Plans will be based, and through which joint ownership and stakeholder engagement can be secured.
- The statutory role of BTPA as the ultimate strategic body to determine effectiveness and efficiency issues in relation to policing be endorsed.
- BTPA to take steps to draw up a new PSA, for discussion with ATOC and for agreement by the Secretary of State. An update paper to be presented to the next meeting on how this is progressing.

**43/2007 BTPA BUSINESS PLAN AND PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Agenda Item 8

Mr Hemmings said the business plan was not complete as Committee work plans were still awaited. He said the intention was to give Members a flavour of those things that the Secretariat was working toward.

It was agreed that Members would feedback on this offline.

**Agreed:**

- **Feedback to be supplied to Ms McGovern offline. Feedback to be received as soon as possible.**

**44/2007 COLLABORATIVE WORKING BETWEEN HOME OFFICE FORCES**

Agenda Item 9

Mr Hemmings said this paper was for information only.

The paper was **noted**.

**45/2007 REVIEW OF POLICING**

Agenda Item 10

Mr Hemmings spoke to his paper, which was for information. He said the Authority would be making a submission to the APA. In particular there were initiatives that BTP had taken in the areas which were the subject of the review, such as the work of the Working Together Group.

Mr Weimar said this would be a good opportunity to make the point that BTP policed nationally.

This paper was **noted**.

**46/2007 COUNTER TERRORISM**

Agenda Item 11

Mr Hemmings said this paper identified some of the issues for other Authorities around Corporate Governance arrangements for counter terrorism. Mr Hemmings said he wanted to ensure that BTP's voice was recognised.

This paper was **noted**.

**47/2007 POLICE AUTHORITY ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT  
FRAMEWORK 2006/7**

Agenda Item 12

Mr Hemmings said the new framework had not been received from the APA and as a result the Secretariat was proposing that this be delayed until the new framework became available. The Chair said he was agreeable to this as a lot of self examination had been carried out recently.

This paper was **noted**.

**Agreed:**

- **The Secretariat waits for the new guidance and framework before repeating this exercise.**



**PART II – ITEMS TAKEN IN PRIVATE**

**48/2007 CHARGES DISPUTES - JUDICIAL REVIEW PROCEEDINGS**

Agenda Item 13

This paper was **noted**.

**49/2007 AOB**

Agenda Item 14

Mr Hemmings distributed two letters from the DfT. One confirmed the second half of the loan could be spread over the next three years and the other related to short term cover whilst the current disputes were underway. The DfT confirmed temporary cash cover during disputes.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at FHQ, 25 Camden Road**

Signed.....

**Chairman**